

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (original) A method for treating or preventing endometriosis in a patient in need of such treatment or prevention, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient.

2. (original) A method for retarding the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient at risk of the developing said lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

3. (original) A method for preventing the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient at risk of the developing said lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

4. (original) A method for reversing the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient at risk of the developing said lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

5. (original) A method for reducing number or severity of endometriotic lesions in a patient having said lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

6. (original) A method for retarding the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient with endometriosis of a type amenable to hormonal therapy, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

7. (original) A method for preventing the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient with endometriosis of a type amenable to hormonal therapy, comprising the

administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

8. (original) A method for reversing the development of endometriotic lesions in a patient with endometriosis of a type amenable to hormonal therapy, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

9. (original) A method of inhibiting aromatase in a patient at risk of having endometriotic lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

10. (original) A method of reducing elevated levels of aromatase in a patient at risk of having endometriotic lesions, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

11. (original) A method of reducing elevated levels of aromatase in a patient with post menopausal endometriosis, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor to said patient, in accordance with Claim 1.

12. (original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of: rofecoxib, etoricoxib, celecoxib, valdecoxib, lumiracoxib, BMS347070, tiracoxib, ABT963, CS502 and GW406381.

13. (original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is rofecoxib.

14. (canceled)

15. (canceled)

16. (original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is etoricoxib.

17. (canceled)

18. (original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is celecoxib.

19. (canceled)

20. (original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is valdecoxib.

21. (canceled)

22. (original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is concomitantly or sequentially co-administered with an oral contraceptive.

23. (original) The method according to Claim 22 wherein the oral contraceptive is selected from the group consisting of: norethindrone, norethindrone acetate, chlormadione acetate, norethynodrel, norgestrel, medroxyprogesterone acetate, megestrol acetate, lynestrenol, quingestrone, ethynodiol acetate, and dimethisterone.

24. (original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is administered perioperatively or as follow-up therapy to surgical removal of endometriotic implants.

25. (original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is concomitantly or sequentially co-administered with a GnRH agonist.

26. (original) The method according to Claim 25 wherein the GnRH-agonist is selected from the group consisting of nafarelin acetate, leuprolide acetate, goserelin acetate, and buserelin acetate.